ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Law and Order situation in Delhi

* 41. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: †
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that law and order situation has deteriorated during the last six months in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT);

(b) if so, the details of cases pertaining to theft, robbery, extortion, rape etc. reported; and

(c) what action Government have taken to control the law and order situation in NCT of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of IPC related cases reported in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last six months from May, 2001 to October, 2001 registered a decline of 4.62% when compared to the number of such cases reported during the corresponding period last year, as per details given in the Statement-I. *(See* below)

(c) The steps taken by Delhi Police to improve the law and order situation in the National Capital Territory of Delhi include intensification of beat patrolling; posting of armed pickets at strategic points; strenghthening of intelligence network; close watch on and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals and terrorists; verification of antecedents of domestic servants and tenants; increased surveillance on history sheeters, individual gangs and desperate criminals; coordination meetings with officers of neighbouring states; meeting with members of Residents Welfare Associations; formation of anti-terrorist cell in each police

† The Question was actully asked on the floor of the House by Shri Raju Parmar.

district; and deployment of police personnel in plain clothes in running buses, market places, business places and other crime-prone places.

Statement-I

The number of IPC related cases, Head-wise, reported in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the period from May, 2001 to October, 2001 as compared to the number of such cases reported during the corrresponding period of the preceding year

A. Heinous Crimes:

	2000 (May-October)	2001 (May-October)
Dacoity	41	24
Murder	294	267
Attempt To Murder	321	255
Robbery	364	309
Riot	80	81
Rape	240	198
Kindnapping for Ransiom	26	25
TOTAL	1366	1156

B. Non-Heinous Crimes:

	2000 (May-October)	2001 (May-October)
1	2	3
Snatching	516	370
Hurt	1282	1147
Burglary	1732	1543
Theft	10462	9645

1		2	3
Extortion		74	109
Other Ipc		13502	13624
	TOTAL:	27568	26438
	TOTAL IPC:	28934	27597

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Sir, the comparative figures furnished by the hon. Minister in his reply do not show much reduction in the number of offences. If you compare the figures of May-October, with that of May-October, 2001, you will know the position. The number of murder cases during May-October, 2000, was 294; during May-October, 2001, it is 267; the number of cases of attempt to murder registered during May-October, 2000, was 321; during May-October, 2001, it is 255; the number of robbery cases registered during May-October, 2000, was 364; between May and October, it is 309; the number of riot cases registered during May-October, 2000, was 80; during May-October, 2001, it is 81; in the same way, the number of rape cases registered during May-October, 2000, was 240; during May-October, 2001, it is 198; and, the number of cases registered for kidnapping for ransom during May-October, 2000, was 26; during May-October, 2001, it is 25. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is attributed to the lack of training given to the police, inefficiency and lack of co-ordination.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir, these figures clearly indicate that there is a decline in the rate of certain crimes. The figures mentioned by the Hon. Member are already laid on the Table of the House. There is a 4.62 per cent decline in the crime rate in Delhi. The police have been able to achieve this because of their systematic analysis of crime, close monitoring and specific efforts made by them. Of course, I do not say that there is a total decline or it has reached to decimal. However, it is a favourable sign that the crime rate in Delhi has come down, and it is because of

the constant efforts of the local police, that the crime rate in Delhi has come down. It is not lack of training. They are making all efforts to see that the crime rate in Delhi is reduced. They are taking various steps.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, one of the reasons for the increase in crimes in Delhi is the obsolete communication system of police. This poses a danger to the security of the people of the Capital. Because of inadequate communication technology, available at present, there is a threat to the VVIP security as also to the security of other citizens from the terrorist organizations. The PCR, which is the nerve-centre of police operation, is handicapped due to their present communication system. The messages of the PCR are frequently intercepted by the terrorist organizations, resulting in crimes committed by these groups. Therefore, Sir, my question is: what steps the Government has taken to upgrade and modernise the wireless and radio system of the PCR. How many cases have come to the notice of the Government so far wherein the terrorists have intercepted the messages of VVIP movement?

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir, in this regard, a number of steps have been taken by the Delhi Police, and the Government has also assisted them, to a large extent. Earlier, whenever such a crime took place, it was due to lack of scientific knowledge. So far as electronic devices and communication system are concerned, they are also taken into consideration. Mobile Crime Prevention Teams have been constituted in Delhi. In order to provide scientific aid to the investigating officers, at the scene of the crime itself, the Government has sanctioned nine Mobile Crime Prevention Teams in Delhi, one for each district, to work on three-shift basis, which involved creation of 135 posts in the grades of Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Constables. Moreover, vehicles have also been purchased for use by these Mobile Crime Prevention Teams in Delhi. The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has separately accorded its approval for purchase of requisite equipments for use of these teams. Secondly, 1000 posts of Sub-Inspectors have been created. Bomb detection and disposal squads have been set up in Delhi. The Bomb Disposal Squads work on three-shift basis. Sanction has also been given for .nine Bomb Detection Teams to work on two shift basis, and they have started operating. So far as modernisation of the police force is concerned, the conventional type of very high-frequency-based communication between the Central Police Control.

Room and the PCR vans has been replaced by the state-of-art where ultra high frequency digital radio system, procured at an expenditure of Rs. 14.21 crores. The installation and commissioning of this sophisticated communication equipment has been completed and the system has been put to use for its intended purposes. They are effectively controlling this kind of crimes with the modern equipments.

श्री भगत राम मनहरः सभापति महोदय, हर शहर और स्थान का महत्व राजनौतिक होता है । यहां दिल्ली के लोगों और शहर की पुलिस व प्रशासन के बड़े हिस्से को इस बात अंदाज तक नहीं है कि यहां कौनसी चीज महत्वपूर्ण है और किस बात का सुरक्षा के लिहाज से कितना महत्व है, जिसके चलते दिल्ली में सिलसिलेवार चोरी, डकैती महिलाओं पर अत्याचार, विस्फोट आदि की घटनाएं होती रहती हैं। श्री आई.डी. स्वामी ने महानिदेशकों की बैठक में कहा था कि आतांकियों का निशान बन सकने वाले महत्वपूर्ण ठिकानों की पहचान कर ली गई है और उसकी सुरक्षा के आवश्यक उपाय किए गए हैं । इसके बाद भी घटनाएं, दुर्घटनाएं रोज हो रही हैं । मुझे एक किस्सा याद आ रहा है कि दो आलसी ठंड के दिनों में फुटपाथ पर कंबल ओढ़ कर सो रहे थे । एक चोर आया और एक कंबल लेकर चल दिया । दुसरे आलसी ने पहले से कहा कि उठो, एक चोर कंबल उठाकर ले जा रहा है । तो पहले आलसी ने कहा कि अभी जाने दो, जब तकिया लेने के लिए आएगा तब हम इसकों पकड़ेंगे । इस तरह कि स्थिति इस सरकार कि है, जो यह घटनाएं दुर्घटनाएं रोज हो रही हैं । इसके लिए मैं समझता हूं कि गृह मंत्रालय पूरी तरह से जिम्मेदार है और यह किस्सा भी इसी के ऊपर लागू होता है । मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि अपराधों का बढ़ता ग्राफ चिंता का विषय है, इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि दो साल के अंदर दिल्ली में अपराधों कि संख्या में वृद्धि की दर क्या है? दूसरे, दिल्ली की जनसंख्या को देखते हुए क्या वर्तमान पुलिस बल पर्याप्त है, पुलिस एवं जनसंख्या का रेश्यो क्या है तथा 1980-81 में क्या रेश्यो था, पुलिस बल बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार के पास क्या कार्य-योजना है?

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO; Sir, it is not correct to say that there is an increase in the crime rate in Delhi. But, so far as that particular incident is concerned, I am not going into that incident. As far as the general crime ratio of the last two years is concerned, it is definitely showing an enormous downward trend. Sir, the total number of henious crimes reported in the year 2000 was 2405; in the year 2001, the total number is 2072. Out of these reported crimes, the number of admitted cases in the year 2000 was 2380; in the year 2001, the number of admitted cases is 2033.

The decline in the total number of henious crimes is 13.85%. Out of these, the number of worked out cases in 2000 was 1819; in 2001, the number of worked out cases is 1640. The percentage of worked out cases in 2000 was 76.43%; in 2001, it is 79.3%."As far as non-henious crimes are concerned, the total number of non-henious crimes reported in the year 2000 was 46,761; in the year 2001, it is 44, 573. Out of these, the number of admitted cases in the year 2000 was 45,803; in the year 2001, it is 43,438. The decline is 4.68%. The number of worked out cases in 2000 was 24,404; in the year 2001, it is 24,048. The percentage of worked out cases in the year 2000 was 53.28%, and 55.36% in the year 2001. The total number of cases reported under the Indian Penal Code in the year 2000 was 49,166; in the year 2001, it is 46,645. The decline is 5.1%.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतमः सभापति जी, यह सही है कि दिल्ली में पिछले कुछ समय में अपराधों कि संख्या का ग्राफ कुछ कम हुआ है, मगर दिल्ली देश का दिल है, दुनिया के प्रमुख प्रतिनिधि दिल्ली में रहते हैं, भारत के प्रमुख प्रतिनिधि दिल्ली में रहते है, इसलिए दिल्ली में अपराध खत्म होने चाहिए, कम होने चाहिए । अब इन अपराधों के बहुत से कारण हो सकते है और इससे पहले कि मैं सवाल पूंछू, मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि मैं मुख्य रूप से इनके चार कारण समझता हूं । पहला, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र बनने के कारण बाहर से बराबर पलायन दिल्ली में हो रहा है हर तरह का ऐलिमेंट तत्व दिल्ली में आ रहा है । तो प्रश्न यह पैदा होता है कि इस नेशनल केपिटल रीज़न का क्या होने जा रहा है जिससे कि क्राइम में कमी आ सकती है, इस बारे में क्या मंत्री जी कुछ बताएंगें? दुसरे, दिल्ली सरकार और पुलिस के अंदर क्या संबंध हैं, यह भी एक संदेह का विषय बना रहता है, इसके बारे में भी कोई सामंजस्य स्थापित करने कि आवश्यकता है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इसके बारे में मंत्री जी का क्या ख्याल है? तीसरे, दिल्ली पुलिस का जो बल है वह यहां सिक्युरिटी पर बहुत ज्यादा लगा हुआ है और जब से अमेरिका में घटना हुई है तब से वे ऐसी और सब जगह लगे हुए हैं । तो पुलिस बल के लोग अपराधों को रोकने में लगें या सुरक्षा में लगें, तो उस दृष्टिकोण से बहुत संख्या बढ़नी चाहिए तो वह संख्या क्या है? और चौथी बात, जो हम सबकी जिम्मेदारी है कि मां-बाप का नियंत्रण अपनी औलाद से हटता जा रहा है और नौजवानों कि आपराधिक प्रवृति बढ़ती जा रही है, ऐसे अनेकों कांड यहां नौजवानों ने किए ।...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं अपने पहले तीन सवालों का मंत्री जी से जवाब चाहूंगा ।

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir, so far as this question is concerned, these three of four supplcmcntarics do not

arise out of this question. However, as far as Delhi is concerned, we are directly responsible for it. Though law and order is a State subject, Delhi being the National Capital Region, we are responsible for it. However, I have noted all the points raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Sir, I would like, to know about the various crimes, the figures for which have been furnished here. I would also like to know, out of these cases, the figures for which have been given here, how many cases have been registered, how many people have been arrested; and how many of them have been punished so far.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir, I am giving .the hon. Member the figures of the rate of conviction, up to the fortnight ending on 31.10.2001. The total number of cases brought before the lower courts is 11,93,012, before the sessions court—80060; the total is 12,73,072. The number of fresh cases received by the lower courts during the last fortnight was 1431; the number of cases received by the sessions courts was 272; the total is 1703. The number of cases disposed of by the lower courts during the fortnight was 1155; this number was 254 in the case of sessions courts; the total is 1409. Sir, the number of persons convicted during the fortnight by the lower courts was 342; by the sessions courts—97; the total is 439. Sir, the number of persons discharged, acquitted or compromised by the lower courts during the fortnight was 519; by the sessions courts—134; the total is 653. Sir, the total number of lower pending cases at the close of the fortnight is 11,95,088 before the lower courts; before the sessions courts—80035; the total is 12,76.023. The number of people convicted till date, during the year, by the lower courts is 7140; by the sessions courts - 1130; the total number of persons convicted till date, during this year, is 8270. The number of persons discharged and acquitted or compromised by the lower courts, till date, during this year, is 10,103; by the sessions courts—2320; the total is 12,429. The percentage of conviction by the lower courts is 47; and by the sessions courts-43; the total is 46., The all-India average of convictions as per the report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), for 1990 is 40 per cent. So, here, the conviction rate, so far as the cases in Delhi is concerned, is 46 per cent.

श्री गांधी आज़ादः सभापति महोदय, दिल्ली ही नहीं प्रायः सभी जगह अखबारों में यह निकलता है कि पुलिस ने हत्या होने की दशा में त्वरित गति से जाकर डैड बॉडी को अपने कब्ज़े में ले लिया है और पोस्ट्मार्टम के लिए भेजा दिया। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या वे ऐसी कोई योजना पुलिस के लिए बना रहे हैं जिससे त्वरित गति से अपराधों को रोका जा सके? क्या इसके लिए कोई कारगर उपाय हैं? क्या वे उन उपायों के ब्यौरा देंगे।

गृह मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी)ः सभापति महोदय, दिल्ली की कानून और व्यवस्था कि स्थिति वर्षों से एक बहुत बड़ी चुनौती रही है। इसीलिए कल जब यह सवाल आज यहां उत्तर देने के लिए प्रस्तुत हुआ तो यहां के पुलिस अधिकरियों से मैंने इस बारे में विस्तार से बातचीत की क्योंकि मुझे स्वयं लगा कि हमेशा दिल्ली का अपराधो का ग्राफ बढ़ता गया है और बढ़ने के अनेक कारण हैं और वह एक सबसे बड़ा कारण हैं कि यहां हर साल पांच लाख कि आबादी बढ़ती है। 40 प्रतिशत दिल्ली कि जनसंख्या स्लम में रहती है और इसके अलावा यहां पर दुनिया भर के दूतावास हैं, संसद हैं सांसद है, केन्द्रीय सरकार है। इन सबकी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था भी पुलिस को करनी होती है। उसी प्रकार से जब आतंकवाद बढ़ा है तो वह केवल जम्मू कश्मीर ही नहीं उसका एक प्रमुख केन्द्र दिल्ली भी बना है और इसीलिए सामान्यतया मैं स्वयं मानता था कि अपराध में प्रति वर्ष थोड़ी -थोड़ी वृद्धि हो रही है, यह कोई आश्चर्य कि बात नहीं है। इसीलिए जो मुझे आंकड़े मिले उसके अनुसार पिछले चार सालों में ग्राफ नीचे गया है तो मुझे लगा कि इसकी छानबीन करनी चाहिए, केवल जगलरी नहीं है स्टेटेटिक्स कि और इसीलिए मैं बहुत तीखे सवाल सबसे पूछे। मुझे देख करके कुछ संतोष हुआ कि वास्तव में हीनियस क्राईम का ग्राफ नीचे गया है तथा चार सालों में लगातार नीचे गया है और इस कारण भी मैंने उनसे और पूछा कि यह कैसे हुआ, क्यों हुआ। तो उन्होंने जो अनेक कदम उठाए उनका उल्लेख किया। मुझे लगता है कि यहां पर कोई भी घटना होती है, अगर दो लोग मारे गए, पति-पत्नी कि हत्या हो गई तो स्वाभाविक रूप से पत्र-पत्रिका में छपता है। लेकिन विश्लेषण करने पर जब यह पता लगता है कि अपराध का ग्राफ नीचे गया हैतो पुलिस कि आलोचना करने के बजाए मैं समझता हूं कि उनका साधुवाद करना चाहिए उनका अभिनन्दन करना चाहिए। अगर कहीं पर कोई कमी हो तो उसे जरूर बताना चाहिए। लेकिन कुल मिला करके एक कारण रहा है पिछले तीन-चार सालों में लगातार जो रेजीडेंट्स एसोसिएसंश हैं उनके साथ उन्होंने अपना तालमेंल बढ़ाया है और उनका सहयोग लेकर के बहुत सारी बातों पर नियंत्रण पाया है और कुल मिला करके जो स्थिति है उसके बारे में मैं संतोष तो नहीं प्रकट करूंगा लेकिन मैं यह जरूर कहूंगा कि सुधार कि दशा में जो स्थिति जा रही है वह अच्छी बात है और उसको और बढ़ाने का हमारा प्रयत्न रहेगा, जो भी कमियां होंगी उसको दूर करेंगे।

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Sir. I want to put a simple

question. It relates to the answer given by the hon. Minister. You say that there is a decline in henious crimes, but what about riots? Riot is one crime that has not decreased since 1980-81. Rather it has increased. I would like to know the reason. I would also like to know whether the Crime Branch of Delhi Police has been entrusted with the task of analysing the crime graph, identifying the crime-prone areas, particularly, the riot-prone areas.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: During the year 2000-2001, if you take the number of riot cases reported up to 15th November, 2000, there is, in fact, a decline. In the year 2000, the number of reported cases of riots was 157, in the next year, the number came down to 155.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: This is not what I am asking. I am asking the reason for the increase in the number of riots. I do not want any figure. That is all here.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: In totality, there has been a decline.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: I am not talking of the totality. I have put one simple and specific question.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: As in the case of other crimes, there have also been cases of riots. But, when you compare the crime rate of last year with that of this year, you will find that there is definitely a decline.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: That is not the question. Kindly answer my one single specific question. Figures are all there. The Hon. Home Minister has cited the figures very nicely.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : जो ऐसे आंकड़े हैं उसका क्या कारण है?

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: The figures are all there.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir. there is no

significant increase in the number of cases of riots. It is all on the record. There is no increase in the number of riots. There is no specific reason...

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Is there no reason? Without a cause nothing happens. My point is that the number of riots is increasing.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: The reason for the decrease in the crime rate is, police stations have been provided with extra manpower and vehicles. In Delhi, most of the police personnel have been provided with motorcycles for their movement. All the police stations have been asked to identify the top ten criminals who indulge in crimes or instigate riots. Because of the effective steps taken by the Government, the crime rate has come down.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: No. Sir. I am not asking this question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why is there an increase in the number of riots?

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : आप उन्हें बोलने दीजिए ।

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : वह समझ नहीं रहे हैं ।

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: In fact, there is no increase in the number of riots. The figures given by me are crystal clear. It shows that there is no increase in the riots. I have given the complete figures and the percentage with regard to crimes and riots upto 16th November, 2001. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : माननीय सदस्या ने जो सवाल पूछा, संभवतया उनके मन में साम्प्रदायिक दंगों की बात है और यह जो उत्तर दिया गया है, उसमें भी जो आंकड़े पुलिस ने दिये हैं,relating to riots. They are not really relating to communal riots. मैं मानता हूं कि कुल मिलाकर दिल्ली में साम्प्रदायिक घटनाएं विगत वर्षों में कम हुई है लेकिन अगर – घटनाएं जिनको देगा कहा जा सके या क्रिमिनल भाषा में रॉयट कहा जा सके- वह हुई है तो उनका संबंध बहुत सारे सार्वजनिक प्रदर्शनों से है । कभी.सी.एन.जी.के ईशू पर हो गया या अर्बन डैवलपमेंट डिपार्टमेंट ने कुछ डेमोलीशन की कार्यवाही की, उसके विरोध में प्रदर्शन हुआ,

उनके कारण टकराव हुआ या जिसको रॉयट कह सकते हैं, वह हुआ । ऐसी घटनाएं हुई हैं लेकिन साम्प्रदायिक घटनाएं कम हुई हैं, साम्प्रदायिक दंगे नहीं हुए हैं, यह संतोष की बात है ।

SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is beyond doubt that the crime rare is on the rise throughout the country. Nobody can deny this aspect. Since this question relates to the Union Territory of Delhi, I would like to clarify a few things. I would be one of those who would like to give the police in Delhi its due because they work very hard; particularly, in the last few years. But the tragedy of Delhi is, sometimes, when the leadership is weak, the lower staff is doing well. Now the leadership of the police is doing very well in Delhi. But what is happening? Your police at the grassroots remains the same. The quality of the training that is imparted, the quality of intelligence and the quality of infrastructure that exists are absolutely the same. It is the same as it was in the British Raj.

SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: When you were in power, what were you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ: I would like to inform the Member that when we are discussing the problem of internal security, the problem of protection of a citizen, there is no question of "You" and "me". There should be "us". Therefore, the Member should learn this culture.

SHRI SATISH PRADHAN; Thank you.

SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ: I was only saying we go on criticising the police. I think they are doing their best in Delhi. If we see the latest crime statistics in the country, everybody knows that there is a lot of pressure on the police. That is why I want to request the Home Minister to look into the 14th Report of the Law Commission headed by Justice Setalvad and 154th Report of the Law Commission headed by Justice Jaichandra Reddy. There are specific points with regard to the police which will improve their performance. You have still not separated the investigation wing of the police from the main job. Most of your police remains oh the VIP duty and for maintenance of law and order. Therefore, if the crimes

are to be tackled seriously, sufficient funds should be allotted to the Police Department. The Police Department is always starved of funds. The police in India are working under miserable conditions. I share the responsibility, if at all it is on me. But it has been emphasised. I think Hon. Home Minister would appreciate that this component of the administration of the State requires special attention rather than being criticised.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fully endorse what the hon. Member has just now said. He has had experience, in Government, of attending to these problems. Over the years, various recommendations have been made in respect of the police set-up in the country, including the well-known Dharmavir Commission's report. We have, since then, taken it up, revived it and referred it to a special Committee which has made its own recommendations. The courts also have taken cognizance of it. And various steps have been taken in pursuance of those recommendations. I would, certainly, agree and accept that for the sake of the country's internal security, for the sake of the citizens' security and for the sake of law and order in the country, the principal instrument is the police, the police administration, and, therefore, their needs of accommodation, their emoluments, their facilities and conditions of service need to be considerably improved. The Government is fully conscious of it and is alive to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Afghan citizens living in the country

* 42. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:†

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Afghan citizens living in the country;

(b) whether all Afghan individuals are registered, if not, the

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Satish Pradhan.